

REMARKS

Claims 1-11 were examined in the present Office Action. The Examiner rejected claims 1-5, 7-9 and 11 and indicated that claims 6 and 10 contain allowable subject matter and would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 3 and 5 as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,011,519 to Sadler ("Sadler") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,005,525 to Kivela ("Kivela"). In addition, the Examiner has rejected claims 2, 4, 7-9 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sadler in view of Kivela in further view of U.S. Patent No. 5,905,467 to Narayanaswamy ("Narayanaswamy"). Accordingly claims 1-4, 7-8, and 11 are all the claims pending in the application.

In view of the Examiner's indication that claims 6 and 10 contain allowable subject matter, the Applicant has amended claim 1 to incorporate the limitations of claims 5-6. Claims 5-6 and 9-10 have been cancelled. Applicant respectfully submits that each pending claim is now in a condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
U.S. Appl'n No. 09/998,242

Docket No. Q67488

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

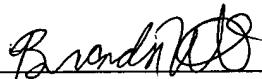
Respectfully submitted,

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